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MESSAGE TO: Examiner Hutchins

FAX NUMBER: 571-270-4651

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Fax to Examiner Hutchins c 571-270-4651

Subject: Proposed Claims for 10/597,139

Dear, Ed. Hutchins,

Transmitted to your consideration in advance of our interview ~~the~~ are proposed amended claims. Please feel free to call me if you need any additional information. Otherwise, I will call you on Thursday at 11:00 am EDT.

Thank you,

Scott Bayendale

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS – NOT FOR ENTRY IN THIS CASE

Application No.: 10/597,139

Docket No.: 50002/40625

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of surveying drill holes comprising the steps of: feeding a survey tool comprising an inertial survey package disposed within a drill string into a borehole on the end of a while the drill string is operational to drill the borehole as part of a hole drilling operation[[],];

activating the survey tool once drilling is completed[[],];
 withdrawing the drill string from the borehole; and
taking position readings from the survey tool as withdrawal of the drill string is temporarily halted to remove each drill rod from the drill string.

2. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the survey tool is maintained in a sleeping mode while drilling is undertaken.

3. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the survey tool is configured to sense the cessation of drilling to activate the survey tool once drilling is completed.

4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) An apparatus for surveying drill holes using a method incorporating the steps of:

feeding a survey tool disposed within a drill string into a borehole on the end of a while the drill string is operational to drill the borehole as part of the hole drilling operation[[],];
activating the survey tool once drilling is completed[[],];
 withdrawing the drill string from the borehole; and
taking position readings from the survey tool as withdrawal of the drill string is temporarily halted to remove each drill rod from the drill string, wherein the survey tool includes an inertial survey package and a power source.

6. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the survey tool also includes a data logger.

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7. (previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the survey tool is mounted to the drill string by a damping system arranged to isolate the survey tool from vibrations and acceleration induced in the drill string.

8. (previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the inertial survey package is selected from the group comprising commercially known inertial survey packages, for superior characteristics of resistance to vibration and impact from a group comprising commercially known inertial survey packages.

9. (original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein the inertial survey package is selected for superior resistance to vibration and impact when in a sleeping mode.

DRAFT